the joint-stock plan. Indeed, those having money had better keep it for the present than pledge it to any person or persons for emigration, until some plan of emigration, coming from the first presidency in Zion, can be submitted to the conferences, which will doubtless be before many months. Several elders from the land of Zion have been appointed to missions on the British islands, in order to supply the places of those who have emigrated, and such as may emigrate in the next fall or winter. The names of six elders have been given in, whose arrival may be looked for in company with Elder Orson Pratt.

The accessions to the Church by baptism continue to increase in many conferences, beyond any former period. And the season is now favourable to out-door preaching, and we are confidently looking for a precious harvest of souls to be gathered into the kingdom during the approaching warm season. With many, probably, this may be the last season they will enjoy the privilege of preaching in England. Our prayer is, that their last days here may be their best and most useful period.

We are receiving many urgent orders for Hymn Books, but shall not venture upon a re-publication of hymns till a greater portion of the accounts due the office are collected in. Some agents are so deeply in debt to us now, that we are afraid they will peril their standing in the kingdom of God, sooner than pay £20 or £30, which they have used for private purposes, instead of transmitting the same where it is due, like honest men. He that is unfaithful over that which is least, how shall he be trusted with greater riches? If you want to entice a man to apostatize and betray innocent blood, let him carry the "bag," like Judas Iscariot.

We hope the Saints will not emigrate unnecessarily before the next fall or winter companies go out. The fall emigration must necessarily be detained this side the mountains till spring, when the winter and fall emigration may go forward together. No person at this early period will be appointed to lead a company. An individual, from near Stourbridge, came to Liverpool in order to emigrate to Orleans with his family. Before he came to any of our brethren he fell in company with a "man-catcher," who, with fair speeches, enticed him to walk with him, and then to drink a little beer with him, and yet a little more; when, to use the emigrant's own expression, he "fell down fast asleep." His flattering companion then took nearly seven sovereigns from him, and left him destitute. After that, it occurred to his mind that he would come to the office for counsel. Other cases not quite so flagrant have occurred.

CONFERENCE MINUTES.

MERTHYR.

The above conference was held on the 26th and 27th December, 1847, Elder Dan Jones presiding. After some preliminaries by the president, the following representations followed:—Total number of officers in Wales—Elders, 64; Priests, 132; Teachers, 71; Deacons, 25; increase in the last year, 954—nearly double! Total numbers, 1933. The different presiding officers represented their branches as being in good standing, love, and union, without hardly an exception, and that they have brighter prospects for the future than hitherto.

Several were called to the different offices of the priesthood, and four new branches were organised in the Glamorganshire conference. Many interesting instances were recited of the powerful and miraculous gifts of God through his Holy Spirit to his people in Wales.

After the business was concluded, President Spencer addressed the audience, who crowded the most capacious hall in these regions to excess, and many had to go away for want of room to come in.

In the successive meetings we received much interesting and valuable instructions from President Spencer, which gladdened the hearts of the Saints who understood them, and will doubtless leave a salutary influence for the time to come. Several of the Elders delivered interesting discourses on many topics, and it was evident that the spirit of the work rested abundantly on all.

On Monday the receipts of the moneys towards the £100 "Keepsake" for the Saints in the wilderness were read, which showed that £22 were defficient to make it up. Upon this announcement, the sovereigns came in, being pitched over people's heads from all directions, which, together with the half crowns, shillings, and pence, and by Brother Jenkins putting on the cap-sheaf with a £10 note, more than the £100 were made up in about ten minutes. Well worthy the examples of the sons of noble sires to free their nation from debt.

In regard to the Press department in Wales, alone I have continued the Welsh *Star* monthly, and increased its circulation to about 1200. I have published in the past year ten other pamphlets besides, containing in all about 850,000 pages 12mo., many of which win their way into every circle of society, and make Mormons from every grade—the priests, protestant and catholic, not excepted. In a word, never were the affairs of the kingdom of God more prosperous, nor the prospects more flattering than they are at present. May heaven vouchsafe its influence to still progress this great work among my kin is the constant prayer of your fellow-labourer

DAN JONES.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Sheffield, March 28, 1848.

Dear Brother Spencer,—Having a few moments of time, I pen these few lines to let you know how we are getting along in this conference. I have been here about 9 months, and am happy to say that the Lord has blessed my labours, for which I feel truly thankful to my Heavenly Father for all his blessings bestowed upon us in our labours. When I came here, the conference numbered 610 members; we now number about 930; an increase of 311 baptized since I came here. Our conference was held on the 26th ult. 145 had been baptized during the last three months; the prospects are cheering for the coming season; the branches were represented in good standing. Life and animation characterises the elders and officers throughout; but greatly disappointed in not having your company on Sunday last. We got the town placarded announcing our meetings, and likewise the expectation of Elder Orson Spencer; the result was our hall was filled with attentive hearers to the reports from various parts. Elder Bradshaw, from Bradford Conference, was present and addressed the congregation in the evening. The Spirit of the Lord was with us through the day, and not a dissenting voice, and all united to do their best to help forward the great cause of truth for the salvation of the sons of men, and may this great work roll forth in majesty and power in all parts of the vineyard, that the honest in heart may be gathered in one, and be prepared for the day of our Master's coming, is our united prayer. Amen.

I remain your brother and fellow-labourer in the gospel of peace,

CRANDELL DUNN.

Merthyr, March 30, 1848.

Dear President Spencer,—This is the first time for me to be able to write this much since my last to you, with the exception of translating the welcome Epistle for my Welsh *Star*, which was done by the bedside, and is in the press now. I have been much afflicted with some disease like the pleurisy, but, through the kindness of our Father and the prayers of the Saints, I am now able to walk out a little. Since you were here, I have written and published three pamphlets of 52 pages each, and some smaller ones, besides my publication, to which cause I attribute principally my illness, and which hints to me that I have published about enough for the present.

The gospel never progressed so rapidly here as it has of late: every week in this branch, for some time, averages about 10 baptisms, nearly 100 here alone have been baptized since